

Children's Cabinet

October 27, 2020

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions (2 min)
- Vote on adoption of September meeting minutes (3 min)
- Early Childhood Strategic Plan – Update for 2021 (15 min)
- Summer 2020 Lookback
 - Presentation from RIDE (5 min)
 - Presentation from Boys & Girls Club (15 min)
 - Discussion (10 min)
- Public Comment (10 min)

2020-2023 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Strategic Plan: **2021 Update**

Our Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Strategic Plan was adopted in early 2020.

Mission: Rhode Island's comprehensive focus on Early Childhood Care and Education brings together providers, programs, advocates and families to ensure that our children prenatal through age five have equitable access to high-quality educational, health and developmental care, and services and supports needed in order to enter school healthy and ready to succeed.

Vision: All Rhode Island children enter kindergarten educationally, social- emotionally, and developmentally ready to succeed, putting them on a path to read proficiently by 3rd grade.

Guiding Principles:

- **Focus on Vulnerable Populations:** We believe in focusing our work. In doing so, we prioritize actions that will deliver outcomes for our highest-risk children to ensure kindergarten readiness, putting them on a path to reading proficiently by third grade.
- **Inclusive and Diverse Engagement:** We believe our work is best supported through strong, sustained partnerships with families, caregivers, community members, educational institutions and providers. Collectively, we can positively impact outcomes for children.
- **Commitment to a Mixed Delivery Model:** We believe in providing child care and education through a diverse set of programs, services and providers so that young children and families can access the resources they need to thrive, in a setting that works best for them.
- **Workforce Advocacy and Support:** We believe in, and support, the individuals caring for our youngest constituents and support the expansion of programs that help recruit, prepare and retain a high- quality early childhood care and education workforce.
- **Collaborative Leadership:** We believe in the mutual alignment and advocacy of the Governor, her Cabinet, and those agencies representing the health, well-being and education of young children and families, from prenatal and maternal health through to school-aged services, education and support.
- **Alignment of Funding with Impact:** We believe in rigorously pursuing diverse and sustainable funding, while also assessing the impact of our investments against desired outcomes for children. RI commits to refining our strategies and actions based on those finding

The ECCE Strategic plan has five core objectives to achieve the vision.

Objectives:

1. Rhode Island's early childhood programs meet high-quality standards for care and education as defined by our Quality Rating and Improvement System.
2. Children and families can equitably access and participate in the early childhood care, services, and supports that will help them reach their potential and enter school healthy and ready to succeed.
3. All four-year olds in Rhode Island have access to high-quality Pre-K, inclusive of parental choice and student needs.
4. Secure the quality and delivery of ECCE through increased and sustainable funding and operational improvements
5. Expand the depth and quality of family and child-level data accessible to and used by agencies, programs, and partners to drive decisions.

Our strategic plan is meant to be a living document. As we look to 2021, and consider the impact of COVID-19, we are reviewing and updating the plan.

Goals of annual reviews:

1. Update the plan to respond to emerging research and data about early childhood development and education
2. Update the plan to reflect changing circumstances, such as the impact of COVID-19
3. Review actions to ensure they will help RI achieve the strategies and objectives

Public Feedback:

- To provide feedback on the plan, please fill out this survey: <https://forms.gle/WXqBhPb49xWwFr8y6> by end of November. Thank you in advance for your input!

Overview of proposed updates:

Objective	Summary of proposed updates
1: Quality Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarify intent of the strategies• Incorporate COVID-19 related activities, such as updates to regulations• Include PDG-funded activities as action items in the plan
2: Equitable Access to Services & Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Include ongoing health-related early childhood activities to ensure cross-agency alignment
3: Universal Pre-K	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incorporate PDG-funded activities, such as the K transition series
4: Operations and Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explicitly focus on the development of sustainable governance as a strategy• Include use of COVID-19 related & other one-time federal funding opportunities
5: Data-Driven System	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update goals related to ECIDS to connect to longitudinal data beyond grade 3

We want your input!

Public Feedback:

- The full plan will be posted on the Children's Cabinet website in the coming days (kids.ri.gov/cabinet)
- Please feel free to email Kayla.S.Rosen@governor.ri.gov for a pdf version of the draft plan.
- To provide feedback on the plan, please fill out this survey: <https://forms.gle/WXqBhPb49xWwFr8y6> by end of November. Thank you in advance for your input!

Summer 2020 Look Back

**RHODE
ISLAND**

Summer Learning Opportunities

- Summer Learning Opportunities are a commitment by the State of Rhode Island to provide our children with the opportunity to experience creativity, exploration, learning, and friendship this summer.
- Through these opportunities we sought to offer both in-person programming and distance learning opportunities for Rhode Island students enrolled in grades Pre-K through 12, prioritizing students in Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls and Woonsocket.



In-Person Programming

RIDE received CARES Act funding to help offset the increased costs with safely running in-person summer programming for Rhode Island children.

Programs qualified based on the following criteria:

- The successful submission of a COVID-19 Summer Camp Plan to DHS
- Capacity of provider and track record of programming offered
- Community demand and opportunities for students
- Demonstrated need based on COVID related expenses and impact
- Priority towards programs that:
 - Serve children in grades K-5 students
 - Serve children in Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls, and Woonsocket

All proposals were evaluated by RIDE and DHS staff members



In-Person Programming: Impact

Number of programs:	Number of students served:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">122 programming opportunities approved across the state from 70 different providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are opportunities for up to 16,507 children to participate in the program offerings across the state.
Sample programs (K-8):	Sample programs (9-12):
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pre-K transition support programmingRI Alliance of Boys and Girls ClubsParks and Recreation departmentsTheater opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Social-Emotional-Learning support programmingWork-based opportunitiesAcademic TutoringTransition support for rising 9th graders



SAIL with PrepareRI

RIDE received funding from the CARES Act to support distance learning opportunities for Rhode Island children.

- The goal for Summer Academy for Interactive Learning (SAIL) with PrepareRI program is to provide the children of Rhode Island with access to a range of academic and enrichment learning opportunities. SAIL leveraged the success of the Rhode Island Advanced Course Network (ACN).
- *Programs qualified to participate in SAIL based on the following criteria:*
 - All opportunities must be open to qualified students statewide.
 - All opportunities must align to one of six priority areas for summer learning: increasing academic achievement, work-based learning, enrichment, physical fitness, supporting transitioning students, and supporting MLL and differently-abled students.

Providers were provided flexibility to design programs that maximized participation.



SAIL with PrepareRI: Impact

Number of programs:	Number of students served:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 75 providers funded• 430 learning opportunities offered	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6,834 learning opportunities taken (2,117 in Readiness courses, 4,717 in other courses)• More than 4,000 unique students served• 30% of students from urban core districts
Sample programs (K-8):	Sample programs (9-12):
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roger Williams Zoo• Mystic Aquarium• Providence Children's Museum• Trinity Repertory Theater• MobileQuest STEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ARISE• URI, RIC, CCRI• RISD, Brown University• College Crusade• Jumpstart Coalition• Mass Insight



Readiness Project: Background

- The RIDE team significantly expanded the PrepareRI College Readiness Project courses under SAIL.
- The PrepareRI College Readiness Project launched a pilot in January 2020 with six schools and 230 students to ensure graduating seniors enter CCRI, RIC, or URI ready to take credit-bearing coursework.
- The course was designed:
 - With Carnegie Math Pathways content modules, a nationally renowned curriculum
 - Aligned to RIC's remedial Math 010 (a course that covers high school-level content)
 - Utilizing the URI placement exam (the exam that both RIC and URI use)
- That developmental pilot was interrupted due to COVID-19
- However, RIDE was able to expand it over the summer through SAIL



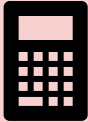
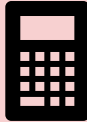


Readiness Project: Expansion

RIDE partnered with Carnegie WestEd, RIPL, and RIC to significantly expand the Readiness Project courses.

- Added **three new courses** to the previous 12th grade math course: 9th grade math, 9th grade ELA, and 12th grade ELA courses
- Opened up enrollment to **any public school student** in the state.
- Providing students with a **stipend** (\$750 for rising seniors, \$250 for rising freshmen), so that learning can be their summer jobs

Courses offered:

9 th Grade ELA (<i>new</i>) 	12 th Grade ELA (<i>new</i>) 
9 th Grade Math (<i>new</i>) 	12 th Grade Math 

Readiness Project: Impact

- Total enrollment: 1,686 students
 - 994 in 9th grade courses, 692 in 12th grade courses. Roughly a quarter of participating students enrolled in both the ELA and math.
 - 1,686 students is roughly equivalent to an entire mid-sized Rhode Island district (e.g. North Smithfield has 1,666 students)
 - 6% of eligible students statewide enrolled
 - Over 10% of all rising RI 9th graders in the state enrolled in the courses
- Equity
 - 54% of Readiness students are students of color (vs. 43% in overall statewide cohort of 9th, 12th, 13th graders)
 - 30% of Readiness students are from the urban core (vs. 28% statewide); 6% of Readiness students are MLLs (vs. 9% statewide)
 - Persistence in the course over the summer has been roughly equal across all subgroups so far
- Research
 - We have set up three research partnerships to evaluate the program: curriculum (WestEd), payment impact (RIPL), and student outcomes (Harvard researcher)



Questions

For more information:

- SAIL with PrepareRI and in-person summer learning:
 - www.ride.ri.gov/summer
- PrepareRI College Readiness Project:
 - www.prepare-ri.org/readiness



A close-up, low-angle shot of five children of various ethnicities smiling and huddled together. The children are wearing casual clothing like a pink shirt, a striped shirt, a blue shirt, and a plaid shirt. The background is bright and out of focus.

RI Children's Cabinet

Joe Pratt, Executive Director/CEO
Boys & Girls Clubs of Newport County

Erin Gilliatt, Executive Director
B&G Clubs of East Providence

October 27, 2020

Our Mission

To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

Three Priority Focus Areas:

- Academic Success
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Good Character & Citizenship



“Before” Statewide Reach & Scope

*More than 33,000 youth served through membership and community outreach
18 Club sites in 8 cities comprised of:*

- Boys & Girls Club of East Providence
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Newport County
- Boys & Girls Club of Northern Rhode Island
- Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Providence
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Warwick

During Closure - Virtual Service & Planning

- All Clubhouses in Rhode Island closed for in-person service on March 14th, however we continued to serve children and their families:
- Regular virtual programs
- Virtual homework help and distance learning support
- Free meal programs at Clubs across the state
- Worked with DHS to become licensed to provide emergency childcare if needed by first responders
- Fielded a survey to assess the state of our families in order to create a roadmap for services when we reopened.

State of Members During COVID-19 Crisis

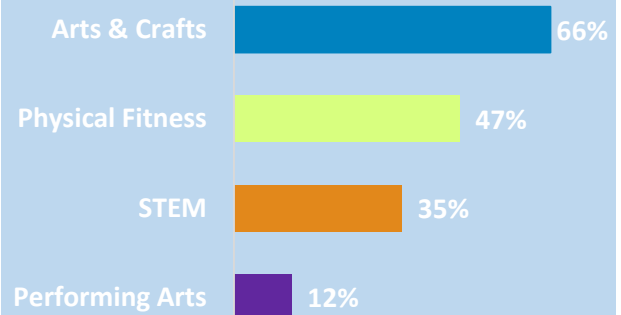


62% of families report their income being affected



1 in 5 families need help putting dinner on the table

Virtual Program Interests



1 in 5 children are only exercising 1-2 times per week

4% are unable to go outside

Family Stress Level



31% of families need tutoring to support student's distance learning



Planning for Summer

Club staff also worked with a third-party evaluator/facilitator to create a statewide approach to summer programs which would be offered in-person and on-line.

Our guiding principle for this work was that
summer was not cancelled at the Clubs.

In-Person Programs

Each Club organization reopened with limited sites and capacity on June 1st. Guided by the planning committee's work, the Clubs had three youth development focus areas for all children this summer.

Key Programs:

- Positive Action: A curriculum designed to help children's social-emotional development
- District Aligned Academic Enrichment: To address the "Covid Slide," Club members worked weekly on math and reading enrichment
- Healthy Individuals, Healthy Communities: This service learning program helped youth to process their feelings about Covid-19 while also improving the broader community.



Virtual Programming Offered with the RIDE SAIL Program

Given our reduced in-person capacity, Clubs also offered 14 different virtual programs via the SAIL program this summer.

Topics ranged from trivia contests to learning to play field hockey to STEM activities.

Participants received program material kits weekly, then accessed their content via Google Classroom with a mixture of uploaded instructional content and scheduled interactive sessions with instructors

Staff Training on Trauma-Informed Care

As we prepared to reopen, we recognized that we would be the first structured care environment children had been in since the crisis began.

Not only were our kids in the middle of an unprecedented trauma, our staff were as well.

We offered training in trauma-informed care to all Club youth development professionals prior to reopening.

- The training began with an opportunity for staff to share their own concerns and fears about Covid
- It then addressed behaviors kids might display and focused on proactive classroom management techniques



Summer Success

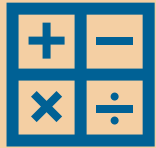
We are pleased to report that after the planning and preparation, the summer was truly successful at Club statewide. It may have looked very different, but we made sure all participants got back to doing their most important job: being a kid!

Overall



1049 participants participated in-person programs at 10 Club sites and in 14 virtual programs through the initiatives

Summer Success



- ✓ 2,768 skills were mastered by participants
- ✓ 2,365 skills became proficient
- ✓ On Average, each participant mastered 7.5 new skills



- ✓ Participants felt more excited about the future
- ✓ Participants in grades 3-8 saw notable increases in their exercise



Thank You!



Public Comment